AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for processing network management data received by a network management system during network monitoring, said method comprising:

receiving network management data, and

determining in real-time if said network management data indicates a resolution of a previous event generated by said network management system in response to previously received network management data,

maintaining an event list, said event list comprising a severity indicator of said previous event, said severity indicator dependent on a event type and a device type;

automatically changing said severity indicator of said previous event dependent on said determining step, and

then automatically removing said previous event from a memory of said network management system, depending on said severity indicator.

2. (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, if said network management data indicates said resolution of a previous event, said method further comprises marking said previous event as resolved.

3. (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said network management data is processed in response to said network management system receiving network management data from said network.

4. (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, said network management data comprising values of a monitored characteristic of a part of said network for which an event

is generated if said monitored value exceeds a predetermined threshold, wherein said event list includes an unresolved previous event for said monitored characteristic, wherein said step of receiving network management data comprises receiving a value for monitored characteristic, and said step of determining comprises considering whether said monitored value has been below said predetermined threshold for a preceding time period, and if so determining that said received value indicates said resolution of said unresolved previous event.

5.   (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said step of considering comprises, in response to receiving said network management data, comparing a first received value for monitored characteristic with said predefined threshold, and if the value is below said predefined threshold, starting a timer, said timer expiring at said end a predefined time period.

6.   (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said step of considering further comprises comparing each subsequent received value for said monitored characteristic with said predefined threshold, and if any value exceeds said threshold canceling said timer.

7.   (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein, when said timer expires, determining that said monitored value has been below said predetermined threshold for said preceding time period.

8.   (currently amended)   A method for processing data representing a monitored characteristic of a part of a network in a network management system, said method comprising:

periodically receiving a value for said monitored characteristic; if a received value exceeds a predetermined threshold for said monitored characteristic generating an event; and

thereafter,

periodically considering whether the monitored value has been below said predetermined threshold for a preceding time period, and if so

determining in real-time that said event is resolved

maintaining an event list, said event list comprising a severity indicator of said previous event, said severity indicator dependent on a event type and a device type; and

automatically changing said severity indicator of said generated event, wherein said severity indicator establishes whether said event should be automatically removed from a memory of said network management system.

9.   (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said preceding time period is an immediately preceding predetermined time period, and said step of periodically considering comprises considering whether monitored value has been below said predetermined threshold for said immediately preceding time period in response to each subsequently received value.

10.   (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein if said step of considering determines that said event is resolved, said method further comprises marking said event as resolved.

11.   (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, said network management data relating to an asynchronous Trap being received by said network management system, wherein said step of determining comprises considering if said Trap indicates said possible resolution of an event in an event log.

12.   (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein if said Trap indicates said possible resolution of an event in an event log, said step of determining further comprises considering whether said event log includes a previously received event that is resolved by said Trap.

13.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method for processing data received in an asynchronous Trap by a network management system, the method comprising: receiving a Trap from the network; automatically determining if the received Trap is a reportable condition, and if so considering if the Trap indicates the possible resolution of a event in an event log, and if so further considering in real-time if the Trap indicates the possible resolution of a further event in the event log.

14.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method processes network management data previously received by the network management system and stored in the memory.

15.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the step of receiving network management data comprises receiving event data relating to an event stored in the memory, in response to a scan of previously generated events stored and included in an event log.

16.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the event data relates to a recurring event and includes the time of the last occurrence of the event.

17.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the step of determining comprises comparing the present time with the time of the last occurrence of the

event, and, if the time difference is greater than a predetermined time interval, determining that the event is resolved.

18.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein if the step of determining determines that the event is resolved, the method further comprises marking the recurring event as resolved.

19.   (currently amended) A method for processing event data generated by a network management system during the monitoring of a network, said method processing event data relating to events previously generated by said network management system a plurality of times and which may be entered in the event log as a recurring event, said method comprising:

maintaining said event log, said event log comprising a plurality of severity indicators, said severity indicator dependent on a event type and a device type;

determining in real-time if an event has already been logged a predetermined number of times in said event log, and if so

automatically identifying said event; and

considering whether the condition which caused event to be generated has occurred in a preceding time period.

20.   (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein, if said step of considering determines that said condition which caused said event to be generated has not occurred in the preceding time period, determining said event to be resolved.

21.   (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 20, further comprising marking said event in said event list as resolved.

22.   (currently amended) A computer readable medium including a computer program for processing network management data received by a network management system during the monitoring of a network; the program comprising:

a program step for receiving network management data and for determining in real-time if said network management data indicates a resolution of a previous event generated by the network management system in response to previously received network management data,

maintaining an event list, said event list comprising a severity indicator of said previous event, said severity indicator dependent on a event type and a device type;

automatically changing said severity indicator of said previous event dependent on said determining step,

and then automatically removing said previous event from a memory of the network management system, depending on said severity indicator.

23.   (currently amended) A network management system for processing network management data received during a monitoring of a network, said system comprising:

a processor for receiving network management data and determining in real-time if said network management data indicates a resolution of a previous event generated by said network management system in response to previously received network management data,

maintaining an event list, said event list comprising a severity indicator of said previous event, said severity indicator dependent on a event type and a device type;

automatically changing said severity indicator of said previous event dependent on said determining step, and then

automatically removing said previous event from a memory of the network management system, depending on said severity indicator.

24.   (previously amended) A network management system as claimed in claim 23,

wherein said memory is configured to store data relating to events generated by said network management system, wherein if said processor determines that received network management data indicates said resolution of a previous event stored in said memory, said processor updates said memory to mark said previous event as resolved.

25.   (previously amended) A network management system as claimed in claim 24, further comprising means for presenting an event list of generated events to a user.